

Epileptic spasms in paediatric post-traumatic epilepsy at a tertiary referral centre

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Received March 15, 2016; Accepted January 20, 2017

- The risk of epileptic spasms (ES) in infants and children after severe traumatic brain injury (TBI) is approximately 13%.
- They are at risk of having epileptic spasms independent of gender, type of injury (nonaccidental vs. accidental), or presence/absence of skull fracture.

- While post-traumatic epilepsy (not ES) may start 10 years after the head injury, ES starts within 2 years according to our small cohort. Thus, one may anticipate peak incidence of ES after TBI between 2 months to 2 years after TBI.

- Epileptic spasms can start in a previously developmentally normal child even after a TBI at the age of 8 years.
- Patients who suffer TBI at young age, who take 2 or more AEDs and have 2 or more seizure types, have a higher risk of developing ES.